



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JAMAICAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SMUGGLING 1700 LBS. OF MARIJUANA

PHOENIX - George Lake, aka Uriah Anthony Walker, a Jamaican citizen, pleaded guilty in federal district court to Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute 100 Kilograms or More of Marijuana on March 26, 2008.

During an investigation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a cooperating source agreed to transport a large load of marijuana for Lake from Arizona to Virginia. On October 13, 2005, the cooperating source delivered a tractor trailer to a warehouse controlled by Lake in Tolleson, Ariz. Lake and other unidentified co-conspirators loaded over 1,700 lbs. of marijuana into the tractor trailer and hid the marijuana among pallets loaded with cooler chests. The truck and marijuana were immediately turned over to ICE agents. Lake was indicted on July 25, 2006 and was arrested by ICE agents on June 6, 2007, in Houston, Texas.

Sentencing is set before Judge Earl H. Carroll on June 16, 2008. A conviction for Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute 100 Kilograms or More of Marijuana carries a minimum penalty of five years to a maximum penalty of 40 years in federal prison, a \$2,000,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Carroll will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution is being handled by James Morse Jr., Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0707
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-076(Lake)

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